

## Message Text

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51

ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 ERDA-07 ACDA-10

CIAE-00 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-07

FEAE-00 PM-03 AID-05 DODE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01

SP-02 OPIC-06 COME-00 /114 W

----- 055813

R 161326Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2070

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

UNCLAS PRETORIA 2182

CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, SF

SUBJ: OPENING OF NEW PILOT PLANT TO PRODUCE URANIUM

HEXAFLOURIDE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

1. RAND DAILY MAIL OF 12 JUN CARRIED ARTICLE ON STATEMENT BY SOUTH  
AFRICAN MINISTER OF MINES, DR. PIET KOORNHOF, TO HOUSE OF  
ASSEMBLY ON 11 JUNE THAT SOUTH AFRICAN SCIENTISTS HAD SUCCESSFULLY  
COMMISSIONED PILOT PLANT AT SOUTH AFRICAN ATOMIC ENERGY BOARD'S PEL-  
INDABA RESEARCH CENTER TO PRODUCE URANIUM HEXAFLORIDE WHICH IS  
FEED MATERIAL FOR URANIUM ENRICHMENT PLANT AT VALINDABA. DR.  
KOORPOF ADDED THAT THE URANIUM HEXAFLOURIDE PILOT PLANT AT PELINDABA  
RECEIVES URANIUM TETRAFLOURIDE PRODUCED BY NUCLEAR FUELS  
CORPORATION (NUFCOR) OF SOUTH AFRICA PLANT AND THEN COVERTS  
URANIUM TETRAFLOURIDE TO URANIUM HEXAFLOURIDE. THE URANIUM  
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TETRAFLOURIDE FROM THE NUFCOR PLANT IS PRODUCED

FROM URANIUM OXIDE MWED IN SOUTH AFRICA.

2. DR. KOORNHOF COMMENTED THAT THE NEW URANIUM HEXAFLOURIDE PILOT PLANT

NOW PUTS SOUTH AFRICA IN A POSITION TO DO ITS ENTIRE  
URANIUM ENRICHMENT PROCESS WITHOUT HAVING TO DEPEND ON OUTSIDE  
ASSISTANCE. HE FURTHER STATED THAT ALTHOUGH THE URANIUM  
HEKURIDE PILOT PLANT WAS NOT A FULL-SCALE COMMERCIAL PLANT,  
INDUSTRIAL SCALE UNITS WERE NEVERTHELESS USED SO THAT THE  
PLANT WOULD PROVIDE VALUABLE INFORMATION ON DESIGN AND  
OPERATIONS FOR FUTURE LARGE-SCALE COMMERCIAL PLANT THAT WOULD  
HAVE TO BE ESTABLISHED.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** URANIUM, PRESS COMMENTS, NUCLEAR FUELS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 JUN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975PRETOR02182  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750209-0244  
**From:** PRETORIA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Line Count:** 74  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION OES  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 25 MAR 2003  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** OPENING OF NEW PILOT PLANT TO PRODUCE URANIUM HEXAFLOURIDE IN SOUTH AFRICA.  
**TAGS:** TECH, SF, (KOORNHOF, PIET)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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